



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 171ST INFANTRY BRIGADE
(BLACK HAWK)
FORT JACKSON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29207

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

ATZJ-D

11 December 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum # 13 - Suicide Prevention

1. The greatest resource to 171st Infantry Brigade is our Soldiers, our civilian workers, and family members. It is imperative that we as leaders ensure the welfare of each and every individual on a continual basis. This includes being sensitive to our team members' emotional, mental, and spiritual needs.
2. Soldiers requiring assistance, support and leadership must receive it. When a Soldier feels alienated or extremely stressed there are always adverse effects, not only regarding the welfare and safety of the individual, but everyone in the organization.
3. Individuals who indicate or gesture, in any manner, that they are considering suicide, must be referred to the proper health care professionals and reported through the chain of command immediately. There is no right or wrong way to tell someone that a subordinate, peer, or superior is considering suicide. Telling someone or seeking help at any level is not a career-stopping action, but is actually a life-saving one.
4. Suicide prevention training and chain of command involvement are the keys to keeping 171st Infantry Brigade team members safe. Commanders and senior leaders will ensure that all subordinates are educated on suicide prevention and the early warning signs associated with it. We must also ensure that our subordinates take prompt action to refer Soldiers when any signs of suicide are evident.
5. The standard for the 171st Infantry Brigade is to safeguard our Soldiers, DA Civilians and Family members by teaching ACE (Ask, Care, Escort) suicide awareness training and ACE suicide intervention training. The ACE suicide awareness training was designed by USACHPPM (United States Army Center for Health Promotion Preventative Medicine) and will be taught during Initial Entry Training (IET) Soldiers. The ACE suicide intervention training, which is a 3 hour training session, will be taught to all Advance Individual Training (AIT) Soldiers, Leaders, Permanent Party Soldiers, Cadre, and DA Civilians. Family members reserve the right to learn the ACE Family suicide awareness training.
 - a) The ACE suicide awareness training for Soldiers will be taught to every IET Soldier that arrives at Fort Jackson; ACE suicide intervention training will be taught to all AIT Soldiers, Permanent Party Soldiers, Cadre, and DA Civilians. Family members of spouses assigned to the 171st Infantry Brigade have the option to be trained in the ACE suicide awareness training for Family.

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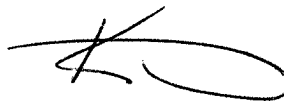
b) The ACE suicide awareness training will be taught bi-annually and the suicide intervention will be taught annually. ACE suicide awareness training has 3 programs: (1) **ACE suicide awareness training (1 hour)** which is designed for Privates through Specialist, (2) **ACE suicide awareness training for Leaders (3 hour)** is designed for NCOs, staff Officers, and Commanders, and (3) **ACE suicide awareness training for Family (1 hour)** is specifically for spouses of our Soldiers and DA Civilians. Each of these training sessions is one hour in length.

c) To help safeguard our Soldiers, as a refresher, we will execute Bi-annual ACE suicide awareness training and ACE intervention training will be conducted annual.

d) The ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) is a two day post- wide workshop sponsored by the Installation Chaplain Office, for Gatekeepers and Green Tab Leaders. Gatekeepers are individuals who, in the performance of their assigned duties and responsibilities, provide specific counseling to Soldiers and Civilians in need; Drill Sergeants, Platoon Sergeants, and Cadre are in this category. To further protect our Soldiers, the 171st Infantry Brigade will also conduct ASIST training for Soldiers, Leaders, and DA Civilians.

6. A venue will be established geared toward training Family members in accordance with Army Regulation 600-63. Communication, supervision and education are paramount in caring for our Soldiers. It is critical to stay alert and engaged at every level so that we can always provide the very best support to our Soldiers, Civilian workers and Families.

7. The point of contact for this memorandum is the Brigade Chaplain at 803-751- 4478



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Commanding

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